

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. No claims are cancelled. No claims are amended. This communication is believed to be fully responsive to all issues raised in the Office Action mailed July 15, 2004.

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Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-7, 9-17, 20-22, 24, 26-28 and 30-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,590,298 to

10 Kawamoto. (hereinafter, "Kawamoto"). Applicant traverses these rejections.

Claim 1 is directed to a disk drive system having an array controller that receives a write command from a host. Claim 1 recites:

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- a write stack drive to receive said write command and to store write operations within said write command with write stack operations on a non-volatile cache memory;
- and
- a normal drive to receive said write command and to execute said write operations within said write command.

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The office asserts that Kawamoto discloses these limitations.

Applicant submits that Kawamoto cannot anticipate (or render obvious) independent claim 1 because Kawamoto neither discloses (nor even suggests) the limitation of *a write stack drive to receive said write command and to*

store write operations within said write command with write stack operations on a non-volatile cache memory, as explicitly recited in claim 1. The Office asserts that the Kawamoto discloses this limitation, and cites Col. 2 lines 38-40 to support the rejection. Applicant respectfully disagrees. The cited text,

5 beginning at Col. 2 line 33, reads as follows:

10 This invention is a method of restoring write data in a disk cache system comprising a host, a disk drive having a plurality of tracks including a plurality of records, a cache memory, a nonvolatile memory, and a disk controller, wherein the disk controller stores tracks including records corresponding to a read command sent from the host in the cache memory from the disk drive, and also stores the tracks including the records updated by the host, into the nonvolatile 15 memory based on the write command sent from the host, and restores the record updated by the write command to the disk drive during the idle time of the disk drive. The method includes updating of records in the nonvolatile memory based on the write command sent from the host; updating the start address and the end address of a record to be restored to the disk drive from the nonvolatile 20 memory, which is stored in the directory within the nonvolatile memory for controlling the track stored in the nonvolatile memory, based on the address of the record updated by the host; and restoring the record updated by host to the disk drive on the basis of the start address and end address of record to be 25 restored to the disk drive from the nonvolatile memory stored in the directory.

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Nothing in this text discloses (or even suggests) using write stack operations in non-volatile memory to store received write operations, as explicitly recited in claim 1. Therefore, the Kawamoto cannot anticipate independent claim 1.

Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1 and as such contain limitations which are not anticipated by Kawamoto.

Independent claims 7, 13, 17, 24, and 28 and their associated dependent claims all contain limitations relating to normal disk drives and write stack drives or similar language. Kawamoto only describes and

5 **contemplates a single disk drive system and as such cannot anticipate these claims. Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejections of these claims be withdrawn.**

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-31 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of the present application. Should any issue remain that prevents immediate allowance of the application, the Office is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss the unresolved issue.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lee&Hayes PLLC

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Dated: 10/13/04



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